

# TOKEN TOPICS

of the  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

January 1973  
Issue #41

ROBERT RITTERBAND  
Editor

**THIS MONTH:** For the first meeting of the New Year we will gather at the home of everyone's favorite hostess, Elaine Willahan, on Sunday afternoon, January 21st. Her address (though surely everyone must have visited there at least once by now) is 516 W. 99th Street, Los Angeles 90044, very close to the Century Boulevard offramps of the Harbor Freeway. An election of officers, postponed from the last meeting, will be held, and a few members will have one more chance to make their annual \$1 dues payment. However these are two items of lesser importance; the main attraction will be an unlimited opportunity for token swappings. The party will run from about 1:30 to 5:00, but we won't be able to really begin until YOU get there!

**IN NOVEMBER:** Our previous get-together was at the home of Robert Ritterband, in Los Angeles, on the third Sunday of November. Members present included Roland Atwood, John Barnes, Bob Carter, Andy Crusen, Gabby Gabsa, Bill Gallagher, Bob Kubach, Steve Lipshie, Jim Manning, Bob Ritterband, Ken Smith, Kirk Smith, and George Ticknor. It was the initial session for O. J. Gabsa, 4565 W. 170th Street, Lawndale, Calif. 90260, who was properly welcomed as a new member.

(Before the end of the year we also added to our rolls the name of Allen Corson, P.O. Box 38-261, Miami, Fla. 33138. One of these days soon we hope to be able to greet him in person at a California meeting.)

During this session it was pointed out that a conflict would arise for our customary gathering in March. The regular schedule of Sunday, March 18, will be the final day of the announced Token Jamboree at San Jose, Calif. Our CATC has been invited to meet there in joint session with the Bay Area Token Society. Discussion indicated that a number of local members probably would not be able to make the 700-mile round trip to the Northern California locale. Members present in November voted therefore to put off our March meeting until the fourth Sunday (3/25), enabling as many of our collectors as possible to take part in both events.

**THAT DOLLAR:** More than once it has been mentioned that your annual \$1 payment is among the last of the "big time bargains". Just the bulletin printing and postage alone add up to more than the tiny amount. Still, this is not a pitch for higher dues... yet. What we want to tell you now is that your '73 dues payment will buy even more than ever!

By arrangement with Mr. Don Townsend, Sr., the manager of Don's Coin and Stamp Shows, any paid up member of CATC will be admitted free to the collector's show at Glendale in February, simply by presenting his current membership card. It will be at the Civic Auditorium on Verdugo Road, February 8-11, with well over 100 dealers on hand. Furthermore, an additional card will be given you there to cover registration fees at their L.A. Convention Center show in June, the Glendale show again in September, and their Disneyland Hotel show in November. NOW will you settle up with Elaine?



GOOD HEALTH: The recent holiday season brought along its usual wave of warm wishes from fellow collectors in many parts of the nation. All were most welcome and were acknowledged with full gratitude. Among the messages received were several telling of renewed health for some of our good members.

Claire Smith wrote to report that Gordon had undergone surgery in October, but had come out of it very well and was doing fine now. Ella Sherman said that Norman was "almost human" again, after a long bout with a painful case of "shingles". We sure want to see both of these fine gentlemen at more meetings in the new year.

From Joseph Allis in New York came word that he had been hospitalized for nine weeks by an old illness and was not released until about the tenth of December. Of course he has fallen far behind on his letters and mail swaps, but he asks for everyone's patience, as he is now getting better day by day.

On the brighter side was a long letter from Leslie Hawthorne, whose new address is 61 Gordon Street, Deepdene 3103, Victoria, Australia. He says, "I have been picking up a nice lot of transportation items, including ferry tokens that are not listed. Also a number of railroad passes that I got in Queensland". He continues at length with comments and suggestions for the betterment of all token collector relationships, proving once again that here is a guy strongly charged with the spirit of vecturism. The only thing Les didn't mention is when we might find him back in our midst once again.

NEWS FLASHES: A news sheet called "Token Topics" sure ought to carry some write-ups about tokens. For a while the stories seemed to be so easy to come by, but suddenly... nothing! Didn't anyone lately locate some new issues, or find a rare Census/One, or even get greeted by a little old lady who "threw away all those metal things just last month; I didn't know they were good for anything". Does the CATC have to develop a bus system or rail line all its own, just so we can have a few tokens to talk about? Please share your knowledge with the rest of us.

EQUAL RIGHTS: No matter how toughened a criminal is, he generally can get some time off his jail sentence by being on good behavior. Now, why shouldn't the same courtesy be given to a slightly lesser villain, our club's president-editor?

This is Issue #41 of the bi-monthly news letter. It has been my genuine pleasure to have written twenty-nine of those issues, plus some help on a few others in between. Also, over the past ten years the fates have decreed that the presidency should be in my hands for six different one-year terms. Certainly now it is time for some "new broom" to sweep in onto these assignments, either in the shape of one good member or even maybe with the jobs split between two of our bunch.

It is not my intention to accept any re-election bids this year. If my health holds up, possibly after an interval the assignments might look attractive again. In the meantime, though, we will definitely stage an election at our January meeting, with the new president to take over at once. Whether our selectee will continue to issue a bulletin in its present form, or arrange for another member to put out something, or even switch to a totally different kind of club communication, remains to be seen. One thing for sure... he will be the chief for a while!

And so, some hearty thanks to some loyal readers. And remember that in our organization the outgoing president always hangs around on the Board for at least one extra year as immediate past prez. So take heart; all is not lost!



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

March 1973  
Issue #42  
R. B. Carter  
Editor

## MARCH MEETING:

Our second meeting in 1973 will once again be held at the home of our secretary. This will be on March 25, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00p.m. If you have never been there, her address is 516 West 99th Street, Los Angeles, California. If you are new (or just plain lost) her telephone number is listed in the book. Elaine bakes the best pies west of the Mississippi --- that alone should bring everyone out.

## REMINDER:

The National Token, Medal and Exonumia Collectors Jamboree in San Jose will be held March 16 - 18, in the Governor's House center at the Hyatt House. Times are Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be dealers, a floor-mail auction on Friday evening and an exhibit area with some fine displays.

A variety of arrangements are offered regarding the admission price including the following:

Admission \$1 per day,  
Banquet ticket \$10.00,  
Or you may avail yourself of the package price  
of \$15 which includes admission for each day,  
a ticket to the Saturday night banquet (the  
ticket will be a token) and three tokens worth  
\$1 each in trade at the table of any bourse  
dealer.

For further information you can contact Duane H. Feisel, P.O. Box 11661, Palo Alto, California, 94306.

## OLD BUSINESS:

The January meeting once again found us with the task of elections. Since our faithful leader (Robert Ritterband) felt he was due for a respite, what might be referred to as a shotgun election resulted in the following slate of officers for the year 1973:

President:	R. B. Carter
Vice President:	Paul Thompson
Secretary:	Elaine Willahan
Treasurer:	Andy Crusen

We had a great turn out with the following members present:



Jeff Alpert, Stephen Alpert, Roland Atwood, John Barnes, R. Carter, Andy Crusen, Bill Gallagher, Robert Kubach, James Manning, Edrick Miller, Robert Ritterband, Frank Roselinsky, Norman Sherman, Claire Smith, F. Gordon Smith, Kenneth Smith, Kirk Smith, Paul Thompson, George Ticknor, Ray Weamer, and Elaine Willahan. Also the following guests were in attendance: Virginia Barnes, Laurie Miller, Pat Miller, Norma Roselinsky, Ella Sherman, and Eleanor Smith.

Jeff Alpert and Stephen Alpert are new members. We all extend a hearty welcome and wish you both much success in your collecting.

Norm Sherman consented to share his knowledge of Horse Car Tokens with a very interesting talk. Thank you Norm, it was much appreciated.

#### SHOWS:

There have been three Numismatic Shows in the Los Angeles area in the month of February. One in Glendale, in Long Beach, and in Los Angeles. These shows are well attended by dealers (150 in Long Beach) as well as by the public. Also there are many fine displays to be viewed, however there was only one on transportation tokens. The field of medals has drawn large participation, indicating the fact that people are interested in something other than coins.

The Los Angeles show is promoted by the Numismatic Association of Southern California. Ken Smith and I both attended the L. A. show on Friday evening, and each spent about 1½ hours looking from dealer to dealer. Our most enjoyable time was spent sitting and talking tokens.

There were 90 dealers but they had very little to offer in the way of tokens. The available TT's were all common and ran from 20¢ to 50¢ apiece - you really had to look to find them.

From past experience I have found that the small coin shows (not the large ones) are the best places to find tokens of interest. This is no doubt due to the fact that there is such a vast difference in the fees paid by the dealer for his table space which probably determines the caliber of material he brings with him. The large shows charge around \$150 per table while the smaller ones charge from \$15 to \$20.

On the other hand it is always good to attend all the shows because you never know when that lucky day may surprise you with a much wanted addition to your collection.

#### FINAL NOTICE:

This will be the last "Token Topics" for those of you who have not sent in your \$1 for membership renewal. So please, place your \$1 in an envelope and send it to our secretary: Elaine Willahan, 516 West 99th Street, Los Angeles, California, 90044.

Inflation has hit all of us, but not in this instance. How many things are left that cost just \$1. ???



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

May 1973  
Issue #43  
R. B. Carter  
Editor

## MAY MEETING:

Believe it or not this is the right month but our meeting date has been moved to the 6th. Our secretary and our treasurer report there is a bigger and better than ever swap meet in Lancaster the third Sunday of this month (our usual date) which will no doubt interest many collectors. It is reputed to be even better than the Pasadena swap.

So once again we will meet at Elaine Willahan's home. Sunday afternoon, the 6th of May, from approximately 2p.m. through 5p.m. is the date to remember.

## LAST MEETING:

In March we had our usual good attendance with twenty two persons present; including seventeen members and five guests. Present were Atwood, Stephen and Jeffrey Alpert, Barnes, Carter, Crusen, Kubach, Lipshie, Miller, Ritterband, Ken and Kirk Smith, F. Gordon and Claire Smith, Thompson, and Willahan; guests were Lanny and Diana Ellman, Bill and Doris Willis, and Eleanor Smith.

Reports from those attending Feisel's show indicate a wonderful time was had by all with lots and lots of tokens for sale -- including many good buys. Rumor has it the next show may be held in the Southern California area in 1974.

John Barnes related his experiences running down tokens while on a trip to Hawaii. No doubt these experiences will be indelibly imprinted in his memory.

Ed Miller brought us up to date on his forthcoming book on transportation of the Costa Mesa area. We certainly are looking forward to its publication.

Thank you both for adding to our meeting.

## REGRET:

Our secretary has received notification of the passing (in March) of Joe Allis. Joe will be sorely missed by his fellow collectors.

## THE 6TH:

I would like to try a different gimmick this time, so please bring a duplicate 15¢ token. Also bring your extra tokens which are for sale and trade so everyone can go home with something new to add to their collection.



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

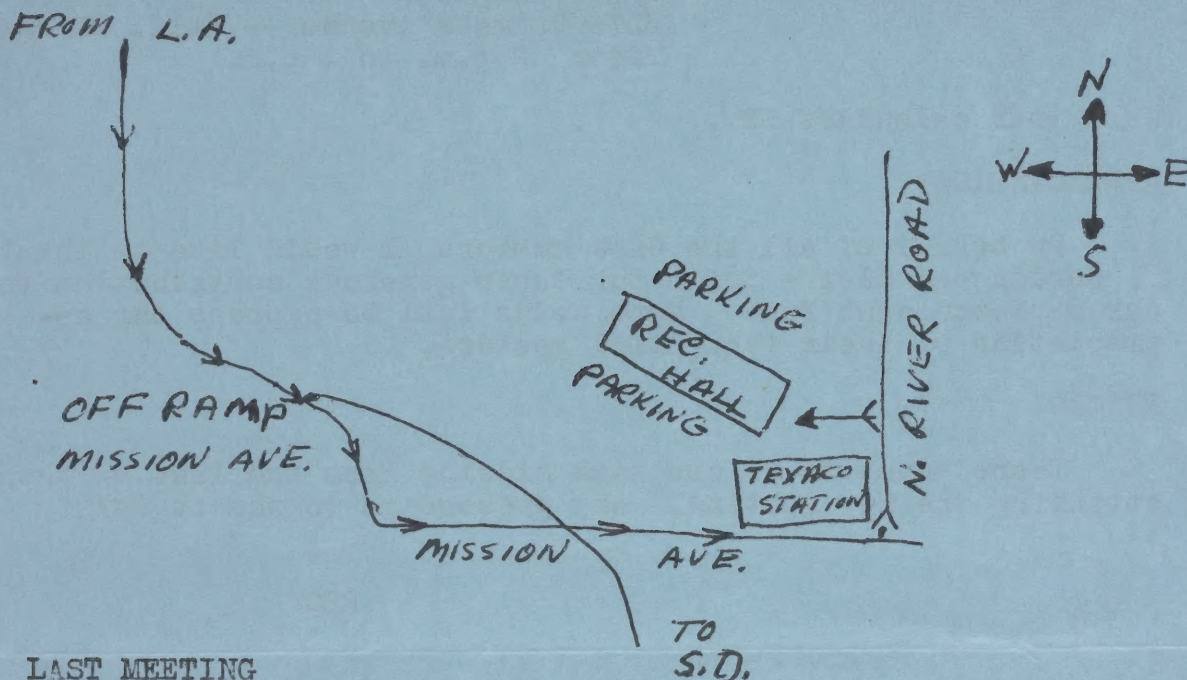
June 1973  
Issue #44  
R. B. Carter  
Editor

## JULY 15TH MEETING -- 3RD SUNDAY

Once again Mr. & Mrs. F. Gordon Smith have invited the CATC to hold our meeting in the Recreation Hall of Mission View West in Oceanside. The meeting is planned from 2 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Directions from the Los Angeles area are as follows:

Take Interstate 5 (San Diego Freeway) to the Mission Ave. (Downtown Oceanside) off ramp, turn left on Mission to North River Road (about 4 miles,) turn left on North River Road; Mission View West is on the left.

SORRY -- NO ONE UNDER AGE 21 ALLOWED IN THE RECREATION HALL



## LAST MEETING

We had our usual good attendance in May, with fourteen members and two guests in attendance. Those present were Steve Alpert, John Barnes, R. Carter, Andy Crusen, Bob Kubach, Steve Lipshie, James Manning, R. Ritterband, Frank Roselinsky, Claire Smith, F. Gordon Smith, Ken Smith, Ray Weamer, and last but not least our new member -- Larry Elman; guests were Virginia Barnes and Victor Lopez. *George Ticknor*

## SURPRISED ??

Robert Ritterband was presented with a "Certificate of Appreciation" for his many years of hard work making our club the success it is today. Perhaps this really was a surprise -- Bob had nothing to say! Again, our sincere thanks Bob.



## LETS NOT FORGET

The AVA meets in Denver, Colorado this year -- August 10, 11, 12, 1973. Advance notice indicates they are planning many activities for those lucky enough to attend. Lets all try to make a good showing with as many of our members as possible in attendance. Remember -- soon it will be our turn!

## FUTURE MEETINGS

The final two meetings of 1973 will be as follows:

Sept. 16, -- Griffith Park  
Our annual picnic next to  
Travel Town  
Time: 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Nov. 18, -- The Ritterband residence  
in Los Angeles  
6576 Colgate Avenue -- Tele. WE 8-4505  
Time: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Mark your calendars NOW.

## APPRECIATION:

On behalf of all the CATC members, I would like to thank F. Gordon and Claire Smith for their generous contribution to our depleted club fund. Mere words fail to express our appreciation of their thoughtful gesture.

## ERRORS

There seems to be one name missing from the list of those attending the May meeting. Any guesses as to who it is?

RBC



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

September 1973

Issue #45

R. B. Carter  
Editor

## SEPTEMBER MEETING -- 3RD SUNDAY

Pack your picnic lunch on Sunday, September 16, and join in the fun of our annual picnic to be held in Griffith Park near the Travel Town section. We will not meet in Travel Town, but will be just east of this section in the grassy park area. Our tables will be as close as possible to the road, so that members and guests will have no difficulty in locating the gathering.

Griffith Park is relatively easy to reach, since it is located between the Hollywood and Ventura Freeways. The Travel Town section is best reached by way of the Ventura Freeway. Meeting time will be from 12 noon until approximately 4 p.m.

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Robert Carter, Duane Feisel, Ralph Freiberg, Robert Kubach, John Nicolosi and Robert Ritterband represented the California membership at the four-day AVA Convention last month in Denver. I am sure all who were present feel as I do that the Colorado members were outstanding hosts.

As AVA president, Ritterband made a number of excellent contributions to the convention. He had edited and reprinted the Constitution and By-Laws (which were distributed to all in attendance), as well as printing the silver covers for the 1973 Roster. As usual, Bob did a superb job.

Also, Bob was the driving force behind the Silver Medals commemorating our 25th Anniversary. Those in attendance who ordered these beautiful medals received theirs personally from him. Thanks again, Bob, for a job well done! (Sorry, folks. There are no extra medals available.)

## IN JULY

The delightful sea breezes of Oceanside were once again enjoyed by all in attendance at the July meeting hosted by F. Gordon and Claire Smith. Those present included Roland Atwood, John Barnes, Bob Carter, Andy Crusen, Bob Kubach, Bob Ritterband, Ken Smith, George Ticknor, Elaine Willahan, and our hosts the Smiths. Virginia Barnes, Boyd and Harriet Carter, and Molly Ritterband were also there as guests.

While the guests chatted poolside, members met in the Recreation Hall. A brief business session was held, during which Bob Ritterband was appointed chairman for the 1975 AVA Convention here in Southern Calif. Following this business, members resumed "Trading and Talking".

For the second month in a row, F. Gordon and Claire Smith have made a generous contribution to our club treasury. "Thank you" seems small acknowledgement, yet it is said in all sincerity.



For the third consecutive year, our CATC group has volunteered to mail its fall bulletin to all members of the American Vecturist Association. Our thought is that this way everyone can have prompt news of the recent 25th Anniversary convention at Denver, and at the same time John Coffee can continue his well-earned summer vacation from The Fare Box. His next issue will be out late this month, to give you complete details on the meeting.

In brief, the Denver party was really a good one! A count of 50 AVA members were on hand (plus a number of family guests), which is indeed a satisfactory turnout. The largest contingent of course were the Colorado members, for a total of nineteen. Next came the six Californians, as listed on the opposite page. There were four members each from Illinois and Texas, three each from Minnesota and Ohio, and two each from Nebraska and New York. Finally, solitary attendees represented Connecticut, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Nevada, and New Jersey. Yes, that adds up to an even fifty.

Somehow we managed to get through two business sessions without any new elections or proposed by-law amendments. A pair of innovative suggestions came from the Denver group on the handling of future conventions and their special tokens, but these ideas were referred to new committees for in-depth study and further report. One of my final efforts as AVA president was to edit and reprint the Constitution for the first time in many years. It ended up as a 12-page booklet, with advance copies given to any interested members at the conclave. The bulk of the production is being forwarded to Editor Coffee and Secretary Mazeau, for distribution soon in The Fare Box to each current member, plus a reserve stock for the future.

Before the business segments finished, it was my pleasure to unveil the new Silver Anniversary Medals. This was a subscription issue, with a total of 265 pieces sold, and exactly that number struck. Quite a few of the buyers were on hand to receive in person this keepsake of our 25th year. Mailings by insured parcel post (with cash rebates) are under way now to other buyers unable to get to the meet.

A 420-item floor and mail auction accounted for much of Saturday afternoon. Full lists of the prices realized will appear soon in The Fare Box. Let me confirm right now, though, that when you read of an Indiana vulcanite token being bought on the floor for \$113, that price is not a misprint!

One of the very few tangles of the gathering was that the annual tour tokens were not completed in time for our customary outing. A substitute piece was used instead, with a promise that the annual tokens will be sent to each conventioneer as quickly as possible. The New Issues Service will also have copies available. The tour this time was by charter bus to Heritage Square, a picturesque shopping center near the town of Golden. A feature here is a 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile circuit of narrow gauge trackage, affording a nice sightseeing jaunt for all. We were told that the steam locomotive had originally been built for dockside work in Hamburg, Germany, with the open-air passenger cars being manufactured locally.

At the final banquet, with about 75 present, it was my privilege to declare the installation of Syd Joseph as new AVA president, with Joel Reznick as his vice-president. Syd responded by presenting a number of beautifully hand-crafted plaques to various officers and veteran members of the Association. He announced that under the new by-laws he was appointing Sidney White of Englewood, Colorado as Curator for the coming two years, and he accepted the convention invitation received for 1976 from the New York City members. After dinner, a most comprehensive slide show on early Colorado rail transportation brought forth many questions from the interested audience.

And so, if you had to miss this enjoyable gathering, why not start now to save your pennies for the '74 session, once again at Minneapolis.



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

November 1973  
Issue #46  
R. B. Carter  
Editor

## NOVEMBER 18TH MEETING -- 3RD SUNDAY

Our last meeting of this year will be held at the home of Robert and Molly Ritterband, 6576 Colgate Avenue, Los Angeles. Meeting time is from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. The telephone number (for any lost collectors) is WE8-4505.

## LET'S NOT FORGET

November has traditionally been the month to elect the officers who guide our club for the following year. Last year we made a slight change which seemed to work out rather well. So, once again we will nominate our candidates this month and hold our election in January. We hope there will be many offers of help for the year 1974.

## CONGRATULATIONS

CATC member Maurice Gould is now a Member of the Board of the American Numismatic Association.

## OLD BUSINESS

Nine members and five guests were in attendance at our annual picnic in Griffith Park. The weather was very cooperative, cool in the shade but very pleasant sitting in the sun.

Present were members R. Atwood, R. Carter, A. Crusen, E. Miller, Ken Smith, Kirk Smith, P. Thompson, G. Ticknor, and last but not least (just in from Arizona) E. Willahan. Guests were Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Smith.

Our special surprise guests were Mr. and Mrs. Cole S. Cuttle from Moorestown, N. J. They were in San Diego on a combined business trip and vacation holiday and drove up for the day to pay us a visit. They are in the Antique business in New Jersey.

A short business meeting was held and then the conversation drifted to the Denver Convention. Since I had attended the Silver Anniversary celebration, I gave a brief summary of events.

The distaff members were very busy catching up on family related activities -- vacations, etc.

## REMINDER

Now is the time to send that \$1 for the biggest bargain you're likely to get in 1974 -- membership in CATC. Please send your dues to Elaine Willahan, 516 West 99th Street, Los Angeles, California 90044.



# TOKEN TOPICS

of the  
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION of TOKEN COLLECTORS

December 1973  
Issue #47  
R. B. Carter  
Editor

## JANUARY 20TH MEETING -- 3RD SUNDAY

The January meeting will be held on Sunday the 20th at the home of our Secretary, Elaine Willahan. The address is 516 West 99th Street, Los Angeles. Time will be from 1:45 p.m. to 4 p.m.

John Barnes will give a talk on Exonumia material. This is a talk he has given to various clubs in the area and it is always enthusiastically received. The exact subject is a surprise.

## OLD BUSINESS

At our November meeting the officers of 1973 were elected to once again guide the club for the year 1974. They are as follows:

President:	R. B. Carter
Vice President:	Paul Thompson
Secretary:	Elaine Willahan
Treasurer:	Andy Crusen

We, as your elected officers, will try to move the club forward but we do need HELP. It is everyone's club, so let's try to bring in new members, and if asked to help out with a job, please roll up your sleeves and do your best.

In attendance at the November meeting were members S. Alpert, R. Atwood, J. Barnes, R. Carter, A. Crusen, L. Elman, R. Kubach, S. Lipshie, J. Manning, R. Ritterband, Ken Smith, Kirk Smith, P. Thompson, G. Ticknor, E. Willahan; guests included Virginia Barnes, Molly Ritterband and Eleanor Smith.

All were greeted by our genial hosts, the Robert Ritterbands. After much trading and swapping refreshments were served.

## INTERESTED ???

For those of you who enjoy attending local coin shows (in anticipation of a rare token find) I would like to remind you of two which will be held in the near future. First, on January 13, 1974 the San Bernardino Coin Club will host a show in the new San Bernardino Convention Center, 3rd and E Street. This is right in the center of town. Second, the biggie, the Numismatic Association of Southern California holds its annual four day show February 7 - 10, 1974, at the Downtown Hilton Hotel in Los Angeles.

With the threat of gas rationing hanging over our heads, we all had better get in our hunting while we still are able to get around.

## REMINDER

We hope to get this letter in the mails before the increase in postage takes effect, so please mark our January meeting date on your calendar so it won't slip your mind. Also, persons who are slow with their \$1 dues will not be receiving any further letters. Please mail your dues right away -- still just \$1. RBC